

## **REMARKS**

Applicant is in receipt of the Office Action mailed April 27, 2004. Claims 1-32 were pending in the application prior to the present amendment. Applicant has amended various of the claims to correct matters of form and antecedent basis, and submits new claims 33-50 to more fully and completely claim Applicant's invention. Reconsideration of the present case is earnestly requested in light of the following remarks.

Applicant respectfully thanks Examiner for allowing claims 1, 2, 4-15 and 32.

As stated above, Applicant submits new dependent claims 33-50 to more fully and completely claim Applicant's invention. New dependent claims 33-50 are dependent upon claim 32, which is allowed. Applicant further notes that all of the new claims are based on allowed matter, and that no new matter has been added. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that, at least for these reasons that claims 33-50 are allowable.

## **§103 Rejections**

Claims 16-21, 24, 30, and 31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mitchell et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,659,749, hereinafter "Mitchell") in view of Baker et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,006,286, hereinafter "Baker"). Applicant has amended independent claim 16 to include the subject matter of claim 18, and claim 18 has been cancelled. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 16, 17 and 19-31, as amended, are allowable based on the following reasoning.

Applicant respectfully submits that neither Mitchell nor Baker provides a motivation to combine, and that even if Mitchell and Baker were combinable, which Applicant argues they are not, the resulting combination would not produce Applicant's invention as claimed, as explained in detail below.

The Office Action asserts: "As per claim 18, Mitchell further discloses the buffer queue having the ability to store a plurality of transfer commands (Column 5, lines 28-50), thereby providing a double or more buffering mechanism."

As mentioned above Applicant has amended claim 16 to included the subject matter of claim 18 to more fully and completely claim Applicant's invention. Applicant notes that amended claim 16 includes limitations similar to those of allowed claim 1, and thus submits that claim 16 is similarly allowable, as are claims dependent thereon. Additional arguments for the allowability of amended claim 16 are presented below.

Applicant respectfully submits that Mitchell teaches and discloses: "The DMA transfer logic 221 includes a transfer queue storing transfer commands, and the DMA transfer logic 221 executes these transfer commands as they arrive at the head of the queue to perform data transfers. . . As discussed above, the DMA transfer logic 221 includes a transfer queue and performs data transfers, the context switching logic 220 performs context switching operations according to the present invention, and the VXI/MXI translation logic 314 performs translations between VXI and MXI signals" (Mitchell col 5, lines 32-51) (*emphasis added*).

In contrast, Applicant's invention as currently recited in claim 16 includes

16. (Currently Amended) A system for transferring data over a communication medium, the system comprising:

a data acquisition device coupled to a first end of the communication medium, wherein the data acquisition device comprises a link buffer; and

a host computer system coupled to a second end of the communication medium, wherein the host computer system is operable to communicate through the communication medium to the data acquisition device;

wherein the host computer system is further operable to prepare a plurality of transfer links and transfer a first portion of the plurality of transfer links to a first portion of the link buffer of the data acquisition device ~~in-a-double-buffered-fashion~~, wherein each of the plurality of transfer links specifies a transfer of data between the data acquisition device and the host computer system;

wherein the data acquisition device is operable to execute the first portion of the transfer links;

wherein the host computer system is further operable to transfer a second portion of the plurality of transfer links to a second portion of the link buffer of the data acquisition device; and

wherein at least a portion of said executing the first portion of the transfer links and at least a portion of said transferring the second portion of the plurality of transfer links to the second portion of the link buffer of the data acquisition device are performed concurrently.

Mitchell and/or Baker provide no teaching, suggestion, or motivation for these features. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 16 as currently amended is patentably distinguished over both Mitchell and Baker, taken both singly and in combination, at least for the reasons presented. Claims 17 and 19-31 are dependent upon claim 16 and are believed to be allowable for at least the reason given above in support of claim 16.

For at least one or more reasons presented herein, removal of the §103 rejection is respectfully requested.

Applicant also respectfully submits that numerous ones of the dependent claims recite further distinctions over the cited art. However, since the independent claims have been shown to be patentably distinct, a further discussion of the dependent claims is not necessary at this time.

## CONCLUSION

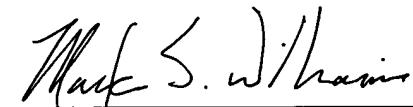
In light of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits the application is now in condition for allowance, and an early notice to that effect is requested.

If any extensions of time (under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136) are necessary to prevent the above referenced application(s) from becoming abandoned, Applicant(s) hereby petition for such extensions. If any fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert & Goetzel PC Deposit Account No. 50-1505/5150-39400/JCH.

Also enclosed herewith are the following items:

- Return Receipt Postcard
- Petition for Extension of Time
- Request for Approval of Drawing Changes
- Notice of Change of Address
- Check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for fees ( \_\_\_\_\_ ).
- Other:

Respectfully submitted,



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